



General Assembly
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 29 January 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a letter dated 28 January 1997 from His Excellency Mr. Radoje Kontić, President of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, relating to the Prevlaka issue.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter dated 28 January 1997 from the President of the Federal
Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addre^ssed to
the Secretary-General

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has acquainted itself with the aide-mémoire of the Government of the Republic of Croatia of 25 November 1996 (A/51/690-S/1996/974). The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is not in agreement with its contents. However, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia does not intend to have it considered in the Security Council for the time being since it is, according to the Agreement on the normalization of relations between the two countries, the subject of negotiations and since the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia does not wish to jeopardize the prospects for these negotiations.

(Signed) Radoje KONTIĆ



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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS,
INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING
THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Letter dated 30 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on
24 January 1997 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on elections
in the Gambia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated
as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda item "Human rights
questions: Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for
improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Netherlands to the United Nations

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 24 January 1997 by the Presidency on
behalf of the European Union on elections in the Gambia

The European Union has taken note of the National Assembly election held on 2 January 1997. The Union congratulates the people of the Gambia and the Provisional Independent Electoral Commission on the way the preparation and the handling of these elections has taken place. The Union considers the elections an important step for the Gambia in its return to civilian democratic government, in spite of the ban imposed before the presidential elections on three former political parties, their leaders and former ministers, which remains in force. The European Union hopes that the National Assembly will soon be able to fulfil the important tasks bestowed on it by the Constitution.

The European Union welcomed the release of a number of detainees last November and it urges the Government of the Gambia to release without delay those who remain in detention for political reasons.

The European Union calls on the Gambian authorities to proceed further on the path to democracy, good governance and human rights in line with the new Constitution and is willing to reinforce its dialogue with the Gambia on these and other matters of common concern.



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SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF
GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED
DEMOCRACIES

Letter dated 30 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on
24 January 1997 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on recent
events in Bulgaria.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated
as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda item "Support by the
United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate
new or restored democracies".

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the Netherlands
to the United Nations

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 24 January 1997 by the Presidency on
behalf of the European Union on recent events in Bulgaria

The European Union wishes to express its deep concern about recent events in Bulgaria, a country with which the European Union is closely linked through the Europe Agreement. Rapid and effective structural reforms are urgently necessary in order to secure the recovery of the economy.

The European Union calls upon all political forces to work together in order to overcome the present deadlock and to restore the confidence of the Bulgarian people in the democratic institutions. In this connection, the European Union calls upon all concerned to contribute to the promotion of stable and effective government in a manner consistent with the Constitution, in accordance with democratic procedures, and conducive to a climate in which outside assistance and advice can be effective.

The European Union encourages all political parties to support the recently elected President in his endeavour to facilitate compromise solutions including on a date for elections.



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NECESSITY OF ENDING THE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL EMBARGO
IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST CUBA

Letter dated 31 January 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach the text of the Reaffirmation of Cuban Dignity and Sovereignty Act, adopted by the National Assembly of People's Power of Cuba. I should like to request that this letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under the item "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

(Signed) Pedro NUÑEZ MOSQUERA
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.



ANNEX

Reaffirmation of Cuban Dignity and Sovereignty Act, adopted on
24 December 1996 by the National Assembly of People's
Power of Cuba

I, Ricardo Alarcón de Quesada, President of the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba,

Let it be known: That the National Assembly of People's Power, at its session of 24 December 1996, centennial year of the death in combat of Antonio Maceo, corresponding to the seventh regular session of the fourth legislature, has approved the following:

Whereas: In the United States of America, the Helms-Burton Act, whose objective is the colonial reabsorption of the Republic of Cuba, has been put into effect,

Whereas: Cuba has long suffered from the imperialist policies of the United States of America, designed to take control of Cuba by various means, starting with its attempts to buy the island from Spain, through its application of the idea of "manifest destiny" and the concept that Cuba is a "ripe apple" which will fall into United States hands, and the resulting Monroe Doctrine, in an attempt to systematically impede our struggles for national liberation, to its 1898 intervention which thwarted the independence for which the Cubans had been fighting with machetes, courage, intelligence and audacity, thus converting Cuba into its colony,

Whereas: Through the Platt Amendment and its continued intervention and meddling in the internal affairs of the country, the United States of America usurped part of the national territory by installing the Guantánamo naval base, imposed corrupt and despotic regimes, including the ignominious and bloody tyrannies of Machado and Batista, and since 1959 has systematically attacked Cuba with the declared objective of putting an end to its independence, eliminating Cuban nationality and forcing the population into servitude,

Whereas: The Cuban people, faithful bearers of the independence legacy of the Liberation Army fighters, and of the workers, peasants, students and intellectuals who have fought and will continue to fight the pretensions of their century-old enemy, are prepared to undertake the greatest efforts and sacrifices to maintain the sovereignty, independence and freedom that they won forever on 1 January 1959,

Whereas: The process of nationalizing the riches and natural resources of the nation, carried out by the revolutionary Government in the name of the Cuban people, was put into effect in accordance with the Constitution, existing laws and international law, without discrimination, with the objective of public benefit, making available adequate compensation, as agreed through bilateral negotiations with all the Governments involved, with the exception of the United States of America, which refused to negotiate because of its policy of blockade and aggression, gravely damaging its own citizens by its actions,

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Whereas: The Cuban people will never permit their country's destiny to be determined by laws dictated from any foreign power,

Whereas: The Helms-Burton Act has been almost unanimously rejected by the international community, owing to its violation of the principles of international law as recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, and to its extra territorial application, which contradicts international norms, in an attempt arbitrarily and illegally to dictate rules to be followed by other States,

Whereas: A considerable number of foreign business people have demonstrated their confidence in Cuba by investing in the country or negotiating possible investments, using all possible legal formulas to help to protect their interests,

Whereas: The National Assembly of People's Power, as the representative of all the people, repudiates the Helms-Burton Act and declares its uncompromising decision to adopt all available legal measures as a response to this anti-Cuba legislation, and to demand the compensation to which the State and people of Cuba have a right,

Therefore: By the powers granted under article 75 (b) of the Constitution of the Republic, the National Assembly of People's Power has adopted the following:

ACT NO. 80

REAFFIRMATION OF CUBAN DIGNITY AND SOVEREIGNTY ACT

Article 1. The Helms-Burton Act is declared illegal, inapplicable and without value or legal effect.

Consequently, all claims by persons or corporations, regardless of citizenship or nationality, on the basis of the Helms-Burton Act shall be considered null and void.

Article 2. The willingness of the Government of the Republic of Cuba, as expressed in the nationalization laws implemented more than 35 years ago, to pay adequate and just compensation for the expropriated property of persons and corporations that had United States citizenship or nationality at that time, is reaffirmed.

Article 3. The compensation referred to in the preceding article for United States properties nationalized by virtue of this legitimate process, as validated by Cuban laws and international law, may form part of a negotiating process between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Cuba on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

The compensation claims for the nationalization of said properties should be examined together with the compensation to which the Cuban State and people have a right, as a result of the damages caused by the blockade and all types of

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aggression, for which the Government of the United States of America is responsible.

Article 4. Any person or corporation of the United States of America that uses the procedures and mechanisms of the Helms-Burton Act, seeks its protection or tries to employ it against others shall be excluded from the possible future negotiations referred to in articles 2 and 3.

Article 5. The Government of the Republic of Cuba is in charge of adopting the provisions, measures and additional arrangements that will be necessary for the complete protection of current and potential foreign investments in Cuba, and the defence of legitimate interests of the same in the face of actions that could derive from the Helms-Burton Act.

Article 6. The Government of the Republic of Cuba is charged with applying or authorizing the formulas that are required for the protection of foreign investors against the application of the Helms-Burton Act, including the transfer of foreign investors' interests to fiduciary companies, financial entities or investment funds.

Article 7. The competent State bodies, as authorized by the Government of the Republic of Cuba, in accordance with the provisions of existing legal regulations, shall provide foreign investors who request them with all available information and documentation necessary for the defence of their legitimate interests against the provisions of the Helms-Burton Act.

In addition, they shall supply the above-mentioned information and documentation to foreign investors who request them in order to pursue legal action in the courts of their respective countries, under legal provisions that protect their interests or that have been established to prevent or limit the application of the Helms-Burton Act.

Article 8. Any form of collaboration, direct or indirect, which favours the application of the Helms-Burton Act is declared unlawful. Collaboration shall be defined as, among other acts:

- Seeking information for or supplying information to a representative of the Government of the United States of America or any other individual for the purpose of using it directly or indirectly in the possible application of the Act or aiding another person in seeking or supplying such information;
- Requesting, receiving, accepting or facilitating the distribution of or benefiting in any way from financial, material or other forms of resources issued by the Government of the United States of America or channelled by it through its representatives or by any other means, for purposes which would benefit the application of the Helms-Burton Act;
- Divulging, disseminating or aiding in the distribution of information, publications, documents or propagandistic material from the Government of the United States of America, its agencies or dependencies or any

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other source, for the purpose of facilitating the application of the Helms-Burton Act;

- Collaborating in any way with radio or television stations or other media or propaganda sources for the purpose of facilitating the application of the Helms-Burton Act.

Article 9. The Government of the Republic of Cuba shall present the National Assembly of People's Power or the Council of State, depending on the jurisdiction involved, with the draft legislation necessary for imposing sanctions on all actions which in one way or another involve collaboration with the objectives of the Helms-Burton Act.

Article 10. It is hereby ratified that monetary remittances sent by persons of Cuban origin resident abroad to family members residing in Cuba shall not be subject to taxes of any kind. The Government of the Republic of Cuba shall adopt all measures deemed necessary to facilitate such remittances.

Persons of Cuban origin resident abroad shall be permitted to hold bank accounts in freely convertible currency or in Cuban pesos in Cuban banks, and the interest accruing on these accounts shall not be subject to taxes of any kind.

In addition, it shall be permitted for insurance policies to be taken out naming permanent residents of Cuba as beneficiaries. The beneficiaries shall be allowed to freely collect the corresponding payments without paying taxes of any kind.

Article 11. The Government of the Republic of Cuba shall maintain current data on the compensation owed by the Government of the United States of America as a consequence of the effects of the economic, trade and financial blockade and its aggression against the country and shall add to these claims the damages and losses caused by thieves, embezzlers, corrupt politicians and mafiosos, as well as the torturers and murderers who were part of the Batista dictatorship, for whose actions the Government of the United States of America has taken responsibility by approving the Helms-Burton Act.

Article 12. Individuals who themselves or whose family members have been the victims of personal injury or material damage as a result of the actions sponsored or supported by the Government of the United States of America referred to in the following paragraph shall be able to file claims for the corresponding compensation before the Claims Commissions that shall be created and organized by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Cuba, which shall be authorized to decide upon the validity of these claims and upon the amount owing and the responsibility of the Government of the United States of America.

The actions referred to in the preceding paragraph shall include death, injury or economic losses caused by the torturers and murderers of the Batista dictatorship, as well as by saboteurs and other criminals in the service of United States imperialism against the Cuban nation since 1 January 1959.

The Ministry of Justice shall be authorized to regulate the procedures involved in filing the claims referred to in this article and to issue any further resolutions for this purpose.

Article 13. The National Assembly of People's Power and the Government of the Republic of Cuba shall cooperate and work in coordination with other parliaments, Governments and international agencies, with the aim of promoting any actions deemed necessary to block the application of the Helms-Burton Act.

Article 14. The people of Cuba as a whole are called upon to continue the profound and systematic examination of the annexationist and colonialist plans of the Government of the United States of America included in the Helms-Burton Act as a means of ensuring that in every territory, community, workplace, educational institution and military unit there is full knowledge of the specific consequences that the execution of these plans would entail for each and every citizen, and to guarantee everyone's active and conscientious participation in the measures needed to defeat them.

Final provisions

First: The Government of the Republic of Cuba and the appropriate State agencies shall be authorized to issue any resolutions deemed necessary for the fulfilment of the provisions of this Act.

Second: Any laws or regulations contrary to this Act shall be rendered null and void when this Act enters into effect, upon its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

ISSUED at the Assembly Hall of the National Assembly of People's Power, International Conference Centre, in the city of Havana on 24 December 1996.



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Fifty-second session

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 30 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I wish solemnly to state the following as regards the letter dated 3 January 1997 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations (A/51/781):

1. There is only one China in the world. The Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal Government representing the entire Chinese people. No change in the way in which leaders of Taiwan are produced or in the political system made by the Taiwan authorities can change the universally established fact that Taiwan is part of China. The question of Taiwan falls entirely within China's internal affairs. It brooks no outside interference whatsoever.

2. The United Nations is an intergovernmental international organization composed of sovereign States. Taiwan, which is but a province of China, has never been a sovereign State. It therefore has no qualifications whatsoever to join in any manner whatsoever the United Nations or any intergovernmental organization of the United Nations system whose members are sovereign States. The attempts by the Taiwan authorities to "join the United Nations" are in the final analysis aimed at splitting China, creating "two Chinas", "one China, one Taiwan" and "the independence of Taiwan". Support by any country or individual for the secessionist activities of the Taiwan authorities constitutes an obstacle to the peaceful reunification of China and is therefore bound to meet with strong opposition from the Government and people of China and the vast numbers of justice-upholding and peace-loving Members of the United Nations.

3. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971 reflected the actual political situation of China since 1949, thus settling once and for all and in a just manner the question of China's representation at the United

Nations, both politically, legally and procedurally. The flat refusal by the General Committee at four consecutive sessions of the General Assembly since the forty-eighth session to include the question of the so-called "Taiwanese representation" on the agenda of the Assembly has fully reflected the firm stand of an overwhelming majority of United Nations Member States in safeguarding the authority of the Charter of the United Nations and resolution 2758 (XXVI), and has proved that the proposal for the so-called "Taiwanese representation" put forward by a very small number of countries has no support at all.

4. It is the unswerving determination of the Chinese Government and people to safeguard their State sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity. In 1997, the Chinese Government will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong, and the concept of "one country, two systems" will turn into a reality. This represents an important step in the reunification of China. The Government of China will adhere to the basic principle of "one country, two systems" and the eight-point proposal put forward by President Jiang Zemin on developing the relations between the two sides of the Taiwan Straits and advancing the process of peaceful reunification of the motherland, and will persistently oppose the secessionist activities of the Taiwan authorities aimed at creating "two Chinas" and "one China, one Taiwan" in the world. The intransigent position of the Taiwan authorities to split the motherland is doomed to failure.

5. The brazen attempt by the Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to use the forum of the United Nations to undermine China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and the cause of reunification and to interfere in China's internal affairs has seriously violated the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). This can not be tolerated by any Member State that is committed to safeguarding the seriousness of the Charter and the General Assembly resolution in question. Clamouring in favour of the secessionist activities of the Taiwan authorities by the Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands is doomed to failure. In his letter, which is a response to my letter to the Secretary-General of 16 October 1996 (A/51/526), he once again took the occasion to recirculate the statement of July 1996 by the so-called "Foreign Ministry" of Taiwan. The clichés in that letter were refuted long ago and are now beneath any refutation.

I have the honour to request that you have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the item entitled "Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations".

(Signed) QIN Huasun
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of
the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

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MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 3 February 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the letters dated 17 January 1997 (S/1997/41) and 23 January 1997 (A/52/63-S/1997/70) from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to respond to certain misleading points therein.

The precarious situation in southern Lebanon is caused by the acts of the terrorist organizations, mostly Hezbollah, which use Lebanese territory as a base of aggression against Israel; by the Government of Lebanon's refusal to disarm these groups; and by the aid and encouragement given to terrorist organizations both by the Government of Lebanon and by States well known for their support of international terror. Lebanon cannot export terrorism and expect peace in return.

Any action by Israel in response to such terrorism has thus been taken solely in self-defence and has regretfully been made necessary precisely because the Government of Lebanon has been, and unfortunately remains, ineffectual, unable or unwilling to carry out its basic duty under international law and the Charter of the United Nations of preventing its territory from being used as a base for Hezbollah and other terrorist groups' attacks against Israel and its citizens. Lebanon has, time and again, had the opportunity to extend central authority over all its territory, yet the Beirut Government has repeatedly demonstrated an incredible inability to act in this regard. Thus Lebanon's efforts at recovery from a decade of ruthless civil war, which are alluded to by its Permanent Representative, are hampered, not by any action on Israel's part, but by its own ineptitude. Clearly, Lebanon needs first to create a solid foundation of peace and tranquillity upon which to build this recovery.

Israel would welcome a change whereby Lebanon ceases to enable its territory to be illegally used for unprovoked terrorist ends, and so puts an end to the current situation of attacks on Israel and its territorial integrity. For Lebanon cannot export terrorism and expect peace in return. Were it not for the unprovoked and relentless terror emanating from Lebanese soil, the southern border with Israel would be calm and safe.

In this context it should be clearly stated that the purported justification advanced by Lebanon for terror activities against Israel, that of claiming a so-called "right of resistance", is completely spurious and has no basis whatever in international law. Any attempt to use General Assembly resolutions as the source of such a claim is a deliberate incorrect misinterpretation of Assembly resolutions, which clearly and unequivocally call for the total rejection of all forms of violence and terror. In fact the very opposite is true. No Assembly resolution can properly be used to justify terror. Moreover, General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 concerning measures to eliminate international terrorism clearly establishes that there is no justification whatsoever for acts of terror.

It should be stressed that Lebanon's position and policies are the primary obstacle in the way of fulfilment of the role of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) as they enable the infiltration of armed terrorists in or through its area of operations, thereby placing upon UNIFIL the impossible task of trying to deal with a situation for which it was not created and for which it has no mandate.

Furthermore, Lebanon's refusal to return to the conference table to discuss a treaty of peace is at odds with its claim to be committed to the Middle East peace process, which is based, as set out in the Joint Invitation issued to all Parties by the Co-sponsors to the Madrid Conference, solely on United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). The invitation issued to Israel did not include the Letter of Assurance to the Government of Lebanon referred to by the Lebanese Permanent Representative, which, therefore, can in no way serve as a basis for negotiations between Israel and Lebanon in the Madrid peace process. If the Government of Lebanon truly wishes to achieve a peaceful settlement, it has to control its heavily armed, semi-independent militias and to resume direct negotiations with Israel in accordance with the agreed upon terms of reference of the peace process. Israel has suggested this many times in the past, lamentably to no avail.

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) David PELEG
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



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Fifty-second session

OCEANS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Letter dated 3 February 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates addressed to
the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of note No. OK1/7/2-50, dated 28 January 1997, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi, setting forth the Ministry's vigorous protests against the violation of the territorial waters of the United Arab Emirates on 19 January 1997 by a logistic landing ship flying the Iranian flag, which was fitted out with four 40 mm/60 guns, and by another Iranian vessel carrying vehicles, cement, sand and building materials. This illegal action is a blatant violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates, a flagrant breach of the norms and principles governing relations between States and conduct that is contrary to the principle of good-neighbourliness.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under the items entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and "United Nations Decade of International Law".

(Signed) Khalid Khalifa AL-MUALLA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



ANNEX

Note verbale dated 28 January 1997 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi and has the honour to inform it that on 19 January 1997, at 5.30 a.m., units of the border guards, coast guard units and police aircraft accompanying them sighted an object at sea 3 nautical miles off Hamra island in the emirate of Ras al-Khaimah. It was ascertained that the object was a naval vessel flying the Iranian flag, the Hengam 511, a logistic landing ship fitted out with four 40 mm/60 guns, sailing at a speed of 14.5 knots.

On the same day, another object was sighted in the same area. It, too, was found to be an Iranian vessel carrying vehicles, cement, sand and building materials.

The captain of the vessel, with whom contact had been made for the purpose of ascertaining the reasons for the vessel's entering the territorial waters of the United Arab Emirates, stated that he had the authorization of the port authorities of the emirates of Ajman and Ras al-Khaimah, an assertion that was subsequently found to be totally unfounded.

Given such unjustified violation of its territorial waters, the United Arab Emirates vigorously protests against these illegal actions, which constitute a blatant violation of its sovereignty, a flagrant breach of the norms and principles governing relations between States and conduct that is contrary to the principle of good-neighbourliness.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs therefore expects that the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran will promptly convey to the competent authorities the vehement protest of the United Arab Emirates and the latter's wishes that such violations of its sovereignty will not be repeated, as they can only have a detrimental effect on relations between the two countries.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs takes this opportunity to convey to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.



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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED
NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION
FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN EUROPE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 5 February 1997 from the Permanent
Representative of Albania to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to communicate to you the following with regard to the letter dated 20 December 1996 addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (A/51/765).

The Chargé d'affaires of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) tried, as in previous similar cases, to avert the attention of the international community from the real situation in Kosova. It is not the only time the Belgrade authorities have attempted to place the responsibility for the serious situation in Kosova elsewhere rather than where it belongs, i.e. the oppressive and terrorizing policies and practices originating in and orchestrated from Belgrade and which are committed systematically by the Serbian police against the Albanians of Kosova.

I wish to recall that the massive violations of human rights in Kosova have continued for a long time now, but during the last few years they have taken on dramatic proportions. In this context, I mention in particular the police brutality against the Albanians of Kosova, the killing of Albanians resulting from such violence, arbitrary searches and arrests, use of torture against and maltreatment of detainees, deliberate persecution and imprisonment of Albanian political and human rights activists, mass dismissals of the Albanians from their jobs, discrimination against Albanian teachers and students, closure of the scientific and cultural institutions of the Albanians and the bringing into practice of a military and police occupation of Kosova. My Government expresses its deep concern about and condemnation of the recent acts of police violence against the Albanians in Kosova, the killings resulting from those police actions and the latest arbitrary arrests carried out throughout Kosova. The

Serb police and military violence has resulted in the forced migration of Albanians from their lands, an exodus that over the years has turned out to be a silent ethnic cleansing, which is also the clear objective of the Serb brutality in Kosova.

Expressing their concern about the grave situation in Kosova, the United Nations and regional organizations, especially the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), have repeatedly called upon the Belgrade authorities to stop the repression against the Albanians, as well as to allow the establishment of an adequate international monitoring presence in Kosova. Regrettably, however, we find that there is still no positive attitude and action on the part of the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in response to the international concern. We call upon those authorities to respect General Assembly resolution 49/204 of 23 December 1994, 50/190 of 22 December 1995 and 51/111 of 12 December 1996, of the resolutions of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as well as relevant decisions of OSCE relating to the situation in Kosova and to the need for its improvement.

The concern of the Republic of Albania about the unacceptable serious situation in Kosova is a legitimate and principal concern based on the Charter of the United Nations. Albania is guided by and respects the principle of refraining from altering borders through the use of force and that of the right of all peoples to self-determination. With its peaceful policy in support of peace initiatives for the region, Albania has and will be a factor for stability in the Balkans. In conclusion, I would like to recall the repeated demands of the General Assembly for respect for the will of the inhabitants of Kosova and for constructive dialogue between the Belgrade authorities and the representatives of the Albanian people of Kosova.

I would highly appreciate it if the text of the present letter could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Permanent Representative



General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF
THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 6 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

With reference to my two previous letters to the President of the Security Council (S/1997/32 and S/1997/83) and upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement issued by the Sudanese National Council for Child Welfare on 20 January 1997. The statement calls for concentrated international action for the protection and safe return of the Sudanese children detained by the Ethiopian Tigray army.

I request that the text of the present letter and its annex be translated and circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled 'Promotion and protection of the rights of children', and of the Security Council.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Elfatih ERWA
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

A call for concerted international action for the protection and
safe return of the Sudanese children detained by the Ethiopian
Tigray army, issued by the National Council for Child Welfare
of the Sudan on 20 January 1997

It is with deep concern and profound indignation that the National Council for Child Welfare of the Sudan addresses the international community at large on the tragic events that have severely affected the child population of southern Blue Nile State as a result of the recent military aggression launched by the Ethiopian Tigray troops against the Sudanese territory of Eastern Sudan.

Confirmed reports available to the Sudanese authorities have indicated that, owing to the atmosphere of fear and terror created by the invaders, approximately 3,000 to 4,000 innocent Sudanese citizens have been forced out of their homes in Kurmuk, Gissan and other surrounding towns and villages. It is evident that the majority of the missing are women and children. These children are facing tragic and dire conditions following the spate of terror inflicted upon them by the invaders; indeed, they have been subjected to war trauma.

In the prevailing conditions, it is undoubtedly difficult to assess the safety and welfare of these citizens. Moreover, eyewitnesses among those who were able to arrive safely have confirmed that the invading Ethiopian Tigray army has captured 160 students, half of them girls, in addition to around 15 male and female teachers during the normal course of study at school. All of these innocent children and their teachers have been taken by force to an unknown and undeclared destination inside Ethiopian territory.

These acts of cruelty and atrocities committed by the Ethiopian Tigray troops, against innocent Sudanese children in particular, are a clear violation of all international humanitarian law, including the rules of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and their Additional Protocols, the Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1990, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of June 1993 and the final document of the Fourth World Conference on Women held at Beijing in September 1995. It is ironic to observe that Ethiopia is a signatory and party to all of these instruments and documents of international humanitarian law.

The National Council for Child Welfare of the Sudan urges the international community at large and the international organizations concerned with the respect and preservation of the rights of the child in particular to shoulder their responsibility to effectively ensure the necessary protection and safe return of all missing children detainees and to renounce the threat and use of violence by the Ethiopian Tigray troops aimed at terrorizing the innocent children in the area.

The National Council for Child Welfare calls upon concerned international organizations and institutions to promptly undertake a thorough investigation into the atrocities committed by the invaders and bring those responsible for these practices to justice.



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SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS
OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR
RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

Letter dated 7 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on
31 January 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union on the elections in
Chechnya.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated
as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda item "Support by the
United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate
new or restored democracies".

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Netherlands to the United Nations



ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 31 January 1997 by the Presidency of
the European Union on the elections in Chechnya

The European Union welcomes the way the presidential and parliamentary elections in the Russian republic of Chechnya were conducted. The elections represent the free will of the voters and form a legitimate base for the new authorities. The European Union expresses the sincere hope that the election results will contribute to establishing the necessary democratic framework within which progress can be made towards a comprehensive solution of the conflict. The European Union highly appreciates the contribution made by the mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Grozny to the organization and monitoring of the elections.

Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, align themselves with this statement.



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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON
THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 7 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on
3 February 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union on the Angolan peace
process.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated
as a document of the General Assembly under the agenda item "Review of the
implementation of the declaration on the strengthening of international
security".

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Netherlands to the United Nations



ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 3 February 1997 by the Presidency of
the European Union on the Angolan peace process

The European Union welcomes recent progress towards the implementation of the Lusaka protocol, in particular the incorporation of senior officers of UNITA into the Angolan armed forces. The Union regrets however that over the past few weeks a number of difficulties have delayed the peace process and that it was not possible either to secure the swearing-in of UNITA deputies or to establish a Government of Unity and National Reconciliation as had been agreed for 17 and 25 January 1997.

The European Union stresses, particularly to the UNITA leadership, the importance of their deputies, future ministers and vice-ministers getting to Luanda by 12 February 1997 as determined by the Joint Commission so that a Government of Unity and National Reconciliation can be established as soon as possible thereafter and, in accordance with resolution 1087 (1996) of the Security Council, without this being linked to other issues.

The European Union calls upon the Government of Angola and UNITA to resolve the remaining obstacles so that a lasting peace can be achieved and programmes of economic and social rehabilitation can be fully implemented.

The European Union reaffirms its support for the efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Angola, Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, and to the three observer States to the Angolan peace process, Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.



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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS
QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE
APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE
EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 14 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on
5 February 1997 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the Niger.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its
annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled
"Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative
approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental
freedoms", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Netherlands to the United Nations



ANNEX

Statement issued on 5 February 1997 by the Presidency
of the European Union concerning the Niger

[Original: English and French]

The European Union was concerned at the arrest of opposition political leaders and of certain participants in the demonstrations which took place on 11 January 1997 and welcomed their release on 23 January 1997.

Nevertheless, it remains concerned that the accusations against the opposition leaders have not yet been withdrawn and by the reactivation of the "State security court".

The European Union calls on the Government of the Niger to moderate its attitude to the opposition and to respect fully fundamental freedoms, including freedom of opinion and freedom of the press, and the rule of law. In this context, it notes with satisfaction the message addressed to the nation on 23 January by the President of the Republic.

It expresses the hope that all the political forces in the Niger can engage in dialogue on a long-term basis with a view to national reconciliation, which is essential for the country's recovery.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated country Cyprus and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.
